

From: [Mejia, Johanna](#)
To: [Kemp, Brian](#); [Gov. Floga](#); [Curry, Lauren](#); [Hatcher, Sam](#); [Bohannon, Brad](#); [Isenhour, Andrew](#); [Reeves, Ansley](#); [Redding, Jody](#); [njenkins](#); [Shiver, Ed](#); gshiver@gsp.net; [Caraway, Ian](#); [Crutchfield, Russell](#); [Maxwell, Daniel](#); [Horvath, Anna](#); [Durrett, Hayden](#); [Pehrson, Mary Madden](#)
Subject: Thursday, March 13th Schedule and Briefing
Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 3:06:41 PM
Attachments: [Thursday, March 13th Schedule and Briefing.pdf](#)

All,

Please find attached schedule and briefing for **Thursday, March 13th, 2025.**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Bests,

Johanna Mejia
Deputy Scheduler and Special Events Coordinator
Office of Governor Brian P. Kemp
johanna.mejia@georgia.gov | [REDACTED]

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March 13, 2025

Thursday

All Day

Legislative Session Day 31

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

****HOLD****

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

TRAVEL

10:30 AM - 10:50 AM

Depart for The Cloister

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

ATTEND: AEI Luncheon with Philip Anschutz and Invited Guests -- The Cloister at Sea Island | The Orangery | 100 Cloister Dr, Sea Island, GA 31561
POC Chris Gavin, Director, Government Relations/Foreign and Defense Policy, AEI, [REDACTED]

Elise Amsler, Events Assistant, AEI, [REDACTED]

Attire:

Men: Resort casual attire is appropriate; for example, a pair of khaki pants with a polo or button-up shirt and a sweater. Suits and ties are discouraged.

Women: Resort casual attire is appropriate; for example, a pair of slacks with a blouse or button-up shirt, flats or wedges, and a sweater.

2:00 PM - 5:30 PM

****HOLD****

5:50 PM - 7:15 PM

Panel: 2025 AEI World Forum Panel – Leadership in the States -- The Cloister at Sea Island | The Beach Club | 100 Cloister Dr, Sea Island, GA 31561
Chris Gavin, Director, Government Relations/Foreign and Defense Policy, AEI, (480)868-1823

Elise Amsler, Events Assistant, AEI, [REDACTED]

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM

****HOLD****

PREPARED BY: JOHANNA MEJIA

THURSDAY, MARCH 13TH, 2025

JOHANNA.MEJIA@GEORGIA.GOV

PANEL: 2025 AEI WORLD FORUM PANEL – LEADERSHIP IN THE STATES

5:50 PM – 7:15 PM

PANEL: 2025 AEI WORLD FORUM PANEL – LEADERSHIP IN THE STATES

Governor Brian Kemp and First Lady Marty Kemp Briefing Paper

LOCATION:

The Cloister at Sea Island | The Beach Club | 100 Cloister Dr, Sea Island, GA 31561

***Confirmation Number:* [REDACTED]

POC:

Chris Gavin, Director, Government Relations/Foreign and Defense Policy, AEI, [REDACTED]

Elise Amsler, Events Assistant, AEI, [REDACTED]

DRESS:

Resort Casual

“Men: Resort casual attire is appropriate; for example, a pair of khaki pants with a polo or button-up shirt and a sweater. Suits and ties are discouraged.”

“Women: Resort casual attire is appropriate; for example, a pair of slacks with a blouse or button-up shirt, flats or wedges, and a sweater.”

PRESS:

This event is closed to the press.

PURPOSE:

Governor and First Lady to attend the 2025 AEI World Forum Panel – Leadership in the States.

Governor to participate in panel.

Each day, America’s governors act as salespeople for their state, negotiators with a legislature, advocates to Washington and the world, responders to disasters, and leaders of an executive branch.

With these powers and responsibilities, they must steer their states to balance a budget, grow their economy, educate their youth, provide for public safety, and navigate energy and technological transitions that will upend how their predecessors have done all these things. AEI’s Ramesh Ponnuru welcomes Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont, Georgia Governor Brian P. Kemp, and Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt for a conversation on leadership in their states.

SCENARIO(S):

***Governor Ned Lamont will no longer be able to attend AEI World Forum due to an injury. Senior Fellow Ramesh Ponnuru will be moderator.*

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Reception to begin;

5:50 pm Governor and First Lady to arrive;

***Governors to be asked to wear a lavalier microphone for the duration of the session.*

6:00 pm Program to begin;

Robert Doar, President, American Enterprise Institute, to provide welcome remarks;

6:10 pm Governor to participate in Leadership in the States conversation panel with Governor Kevin Stitt, Governor of Oklahoma (*Ramesh Ponnuru, Senior Fellow, AEI, to serve as moderator*);

7:15 pm Panel to conclude;

***Governor and First Lady to depart at their leisure.*

7:15 pm - 8:00 pm Dinner

8:30 pm – 9:30 pm Evening Conversation with House Ways and Means Chairman Jason Smith

8:30 pm – 10:15 pm Post-Dinner Reception

PANEL PARTICIPATES:

Ramesh Ponnuru, Senior Fellow, AEI, (*Moderator*)

Governor Brian P. Kemp, Governor of Georgia

Governor Ned Lamont, Governor of Connecticut ***WILL NO LONGER ATTEND DUE TO INJURY.*

Governor Kevin Stitt, Governor of Oklahoma

ATTENDEES:

***Approximately 300 expected attendees. RSVP list not provided.*

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ATTENDEES:

Governor Brian P. Kemp

First Lady Marty A. Kemp

Troopers



WORLD FORUM

SEA ISLAND, GEORGIA

WEATHER AND ATTIRE

DAILY ATTIRE

As you prepare for the conference, please note the World Forum dress code:

Men

Resort casual attire is appropriate; for example, a pair of khaki pants with a polo or button-up shirt and a sweater. Suits and ties are discouraged.

Women

Resort casual attire is appropriate; for example, a pair of slacks with a blouse or button-up shirt, flats or wedges, and a sweater.

DINNER ATTIRE

Thursday Dinner: Resort casual

Friday Dinner: Resort casual

Saturday Dinner: Business casual; slightly more formal

March in Sea Island is generally mild, but evening breezes may bring a slight chill. Layering is recommended for comfort. Rain is possible, so we advise packing a small umbrella or rain jacket.

TEMPERATURE

Average temperatures for Sea Island in March:

- High: 69 degrees F
- Low: 56 degrees F



W O R L D F O R U M

SEA ISLAND, GEORGIA

AGENDA AND PARTICIPANTS

MARCH 13-16, 2025

Thursday, March 13

| | | |
|----------------|--|--|
| All Day | Registration | Colonial Lounge |
| 3:00–4:15 p.m. | Book Seminars (Optional) The Fate of the Day: The War for America, Fort Ticonderoga to Charleston, 1777–1780 Rick Atkinson Aaron MacLean (Moderator) Robert Doar (Introduction) | The Cloister <p>The year 2025 marks the 250th anniversary of the start of the American Revolution. An essential part of the story of our nation's founding is our improbable military triumph against Britain. Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Rick Atkinson has been studying this conflict for years, and the second book in his Revolution Trilogy, <i>The Fate of the Day: The War for America, Fort Ticonderoga to Charleston, 1777–1780</i>, comes out this spring. Please join him for a seminar on this new book, covering the middle years of the war, including the Battle of Saratoga, Valley Forge, and France's entry. Mr. Atkinson's powerful narrative adds new dimensions to the people and events that won our nation its independence.</p> |
| | Tides of Fortune: The Rise and Decline of Great Militaries Zack Cooper Kori Schake (Introduction) | <p>Zack Cooper will discuss his recently released book, <i>Tides of Fortune: The Rise and Decline of Great Militaries</i>, from Yale University Press. Drawing on a decade of research and his experience at the White House and the Pentagon, Dr. Cooper outlines a novel explanation for how militaries change as they rise and decline. For centuries, the world's most powerful militaries have adhered to a remarkably consistent pattern of behavior. His book tracks the paths of the six great powers of the 20th century and argues that the American and Chinese militaries are following the same well-trodden path. To get on the right side of history, the United States must change course, and quickly.</p> |
| 5:00–6:00 p.m. | Reception | The Beach Club |
| 6:00–6:10 p.m. | Welcome Remarks Daniel A. D'Aniello Robert Doar | The Beach Club |
| 6:10–7:15 p.m. | Opening Conversation Leadership in the States Brian P. Kemp Kevin Stitt Ramesh Ponnuru (Moderator) | The Beach Club <p>Each day, America's governors act as salespeople for their state, negotiators with a legislature, advocates to Washington and the world, responders to disasters, and leaders of an executive branch. With these powers and responsibilities, they must steer their states to balance a budget, grow their economy, educate their youth, provide for public safety, and navigate energy and technological transitions that will upend how their predecessors have done all these things. Please join AEI's Ramesh Ponnuru as he welcomes Georgia Governor Brian P. Kemp and Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt for a conversation on leadership in their states.</p> |

| | | |
|-----------------|--|----------------|
| 7:15–8:30 p.m. | Dinner | The Beach Club |
| 8:30–9:30 p.m. | Evening Conversation | The Beach Club |
| | A Conversation with House Ways and Means Chairman Jason Smith David M. Rubenstein (Moderator) | |
| | The year 2025 is crucial for tax policy, as the expiration of provisions of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, including individual rate cuts, provides an opportunity to extend and expand fiscally responsible pro-growth tax reform. As chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Jason Smith is the chief tax writer for House Republicans and one of the most influential players in crafting both the substance and political strategy of this legislation. What are Republicans' top priorities, and how will they navigate their narrow majority and differences between the House and Senate? Join Chairman Smith for a conversation about the opportunities and challenges of tax reform in 2025. | |
| 8:30–10:15 p.m. | Post-Dinner Reception | Spanish Lounge |

Friday, March 14

| | | |
|----------------|---|--------------------|
| 7:30–9:30 a.m. | Breakfast Available | The Cloister |
| 8:00–9:00 a.m. | Early Bird Sessions | The Cloister |
| | China's Foreign Influence Operations John Moolenaar Derek Scissors Brandon Wales Yaqiu (Rachel) Wang Audrye Wong (Moderator) | |
| | How is the Chinese Communist Party trying to manipulate ethnic Chinese communities in the United States and elsewhere? What are the implications of recent Chinese hacking attempts on US infrastructure and telecommunications? To what extent have multinational corporations fallen under the sway of the Chinese government's demands? And how is the US government responding to China's wide-ranging influence attempts? This panel will examine the multifaceted nature of Beijing's political interference and foreign influence activities and assess the threats to US national security and the health of liberal democracies. | |
| | How to Understand Gen Z Kristen Soltis Anderson Daniel A. Cox Ramesh Ponnuru (Moderator) | |
| | The young are always a mystery to their elders, but today's young Americans seem to be living exceptionally different lives than their parents and grandparents did. Technology has changed how they learn, work, and socialize, and long-standing norms around dating, marriage, work, play, and politics have seemingly melted away. But are Gen Z Americans really that different from other generations? Join pollster Kristen Soltis Anderson and AEI's Survey Center Director Daniel A. Cox for a conversation about kids today and tomorrow. | |
| | Special Exhibit | Black Banks Parlor |
| | The Situation Room: The Wars in Ukraine and the Middle East Frederick W. Kagan Kimberly Kagan | |
| | Frederick W. Kagan and the Critical Threats Project (CTP) at AEI work closely with their research partner, the Institute for the Study of War (ISW), led by Kimberly Kagan. CTP and ISW are analyzing the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Israel-Hamas war, Syria, and Iran's activities in the Middle East. The daily update maps are actively used by most major media outlets, including the BBC, CNN, <i>The Guardian</i> , <i>The Financial Times</i> , <i>The New York Times</i> , and Reuters. This session will showcase the most recent CTP-ISW assessments of the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East and provide up-to-date information on the crises. | |

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Breakout Sessions

AI, Cybersecurity, and the Future of American Security

Mike Gallagher
 Richard McCormick
 Paul M. Nakasone
 Kent Walker
 Klon Kitchen (Moderator)

The Cloister

Artificial intelligence is reshaping the battlefield of cybersecurity, amplifying both threats and defenses. Former Representative Mike Gallagher, former Director of the National Security Agency Paul M. Nakasone, Representative Richard McCormick, and Google's Kent Walker examine how AI is transforming cyber operations, the implications for national security, and the urgent need for collaboration between government and industry. This discussion will explore the risks, opportunities, and policies shaping America's ability to defend itself in the AI-driven cyber era.

A Conversation with Dr. Priscilla Chan

Robert Doar (Moderator)

Priscilla Chan is the co-founder and co-CEO of the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative (CZI). Founded in 2015, CZI is harnessing the power of technology to advance its core mission to help scientists cure, prevent, or manage all diseases by the end of this century. As a tech-driven philanthropy, CZI has supported researchers in learning about human cell behavior, building open-source software tools, and creating scientific institutions to help address some of the biggest challenges in cell biology and imaging. Join Dr. Chan and AEI President Robert Doar for a conversation about the role of philanthropy in developing cutting-edge scientific research and CZI's work to build a better future for all.

The Future of Ukraine

Frederick W. Kagan
 Danielle Pletka
 Rob Portman
 Marc A. Thiessen (Moderator)

As US-Ukraine relations enter a period of uncertainty, numerous questions are pressing. Is the United States indispensable to Ukrainian victory? Can Europe fill any gap left if the United States ceases to support Ukraine militarily and financially? Is this a harbinger of the end of the transatlantic alliance? Or are relations recoverable? There's also the question of a new basis for relations between Washington and Kyiv: Can a minerals deal resuscitate Trump-Zelensky ties? And finally, what does this mean for Russia and the new axis of evil?

10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Morning Conversations

Challenges for the Trump Presidency

10:45–11:30 a.m.

H. Lawrence Culp Jr.
 Judy Marks
 Chris Stirewalt (Moderator)

The Cloister Ballroom

A Conversation with America's CEOs

As a new administration takes office, American businesses are facing broad uncertainty. Tax reform, deregulation, and technological innovation could potentially unlock growth, but geopolitical competition, trade barriers, and a heated political climate pose novel challenges to business leaders. How should businesses respond and adapt, and what does successful corporate leadership look like in 2025? Join AEI's Chris Stirewalt and two of America's leading CEOs for a conversation about the present and future of America's business environment.

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Jack Landman Goldsmith
 Don McGahn
 Jeffrey A. Rosen
 Adam J. White
 Yuval Levin (Moderator)

Executive Power in a New Era

In returning to the presidency, President Trump has pledged to use the power of the presidential office more aggressively and effectively. How should we expect the new administration to use its authorities, approach the other branches, and shape the separation of powers? And what kinds of challenges might President Trump's approach to his office confront in the coming years? Join leading scholars of the executive branch and former Trump administration officials to think about the legislative branch in President Trump's second term.

12:30–2:00 p.m.

Luncheon

Governing Over a Divided America

Mark Penn

Karl Rove

Matthew Continetti (Moderator)

The Beach Club

American society remains deeply divided. More Americans than ever are distrustful of their neighbors, skeptical of institutions, and pessimistic about the future. The 2024 elections reflected many of these concerns, further highlighting pressing socioeconomic issues, changing demographic trends, and the necessity of challenging policy conversations. With elections in the rearview mirror, how can today's leaders across government address these challenges? What can policymakers do to alleviate Americans' rising concerns on everything from the economy to culture, as well as rebuild lacking trust in institutions? How can leaders govern over a divided America? And with a wafer-thin Republican House majority, where might compromise be necessary—and where might it prove the most complicated?

2:15–3:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sessions

Antisemitism at the United Nations: A Global Stain

Hillel Neuer

Brett D. Schaefer

Elise M. Stefanik

Danielle Pletka (Moderator)

The Cloister

Whether it's Secretary-General António Guterres explaining away October 7 with "context," UNRWA's "mind meld" with Hamas, the International Criminal Court's unbalanced vendetta against Israel, the Human Rights Council's disturbing obsession with Israel, or the General Assembly's efforts to reward Hamas for its terrorism, the past year and a half has ripped the mask off the entire UN system's problem with Jews. Nor is this the UN's only blind spot: It was infiltrated agencywide by the Chinese Communist Party and incapable of managing the COVID pandemic. The real question is: Is the United Nations redeemable?

Solving America's Housing Crisis

L. Jay Cross

Mike Flood

Eric L. Johnson

Gene Sperling

Edward L. Glaeser (Moderator)

America's housing market is deeply unbalanced, with demand growing faster than supply and home prices rising faster than many Americans' incomes. To address this, politicians typically want to subsidize homebuyers—putting additional upward pressure on prices. Increasing supply, in contrast, would put more Americans in homes while slowing the growth of prices. Supply constraints are challenging to address because they are set by localities responsive to pressure from current homeowners. But addressing them is crucial: Homeownership is central to the American Dream, wealth accumulation, and strong communities.

The US Economy in 2025: Inflation, Disruption, and Growth

Jason Furman

Jan Hatzius

Michael R. Strain

Mark Zandi

James Pethokoukis (Moderator)

What is the state of the economy in the first quarter of 2025? Is inflation stuck above the Fed's target? Can the expansion withstand President Trump's trade and immigration policies? How big an economic boost will deregulation and tax cuts provide? Will AI spending dwarf the negative effect of policy errors? What role will heightened geopolitical tensions play? Join our panel of leading economists to discuss their outlook for 2025.

3:30–5:00 p.m.

Afternoon Break

3:45–4:45 p.m.

Special Exhibit

The Situation Room: The Wars in Ukraine and the Middle East

Frederick W. Kagan

Kimberly Kagan

Black Banks Parlor

Frederick W. Kagan and the Critical Threats Project (CTP) at AEI work closely with their research partner, the Institute for the Study of War (ISW), led by Kimberly Kagan. CTP and ISW are analyzing the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Israel-Hamas war, Syria, and Iran's activities in the Middle East. The daily update maps are actively used by most major media outlets, including the BBC, CNN, *The Guardian*, *The Financial Times*, *The New York Times*, and Reuters. This session will showcase the most recent CTP-ISW assessments of the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East and provide up-to-date information on the crises.

5:00–6:15 p.m.

Evening Conversation

A Conversation with Senate Majority Leader John Thune

Paul A. Gigot (Moderator)

The Cloister Ballroom

After 20 years of service in the Senate, John Thune was elected to succeed Mitch McConnell as Senate majority leader. In this role, Senator Thune is leading efforts to confirm President Trump's nominees and pass Republicans' legislative agenda on issues including border security, defense spending, and tax reform. Legislative success requires appropriately weighing priorities and successfully cooperating with the House and the president. How is the Senate approaching these challenges? What is changing and what is staying the same in this era of tremendous political disruption? Join Senate Majority Leader Thune for a conversation about the political landscape and legislative dynamics facing lawmakers right now.

6:15–7:15 p.m.

Reception

The Cloister

7:15–8:30 p.m.

Dinner

The Cloister

8:30–10:15 p.m.

Post-Dinner Reception

The Cloister

8:45–9:45 p.m.

Starlight Chats

The Cloister

A Conversation with Governor Glenn Youngkin

Kristen Soltis Anderson (Moderator)

Glenn Youngkin is entering his fourth and final year in his term-limited time as Virginia's governor in 2025. On the campaign trail and in office, Governor Youngkin has successfully navigated the challenges of winning elections and effectively governing as a Republican in a purple state, creating a healthy business environment and economic growth while pursuing an innovative and principled policy agenda on issues like education and artificial intelligence. Does Virginia point the way to a center-right agenda that can both unify conservatives and win over moderates? Join Governor Youngkin for a conversation about his experiences and the broader lessons the country can learn from his state.

A Conversation with Phil Gramm on Free Trade, Free Markets, and Free People

Michael R. Strain (Moderator)

Phil Gramm was a leader in the US Senate, serving as chairman of the Banking Committee. Since leaving Congress, he has been a leader in the public square. Most recently, Senator Gramm has been one of the strongest voices in favor of free trade. This should come as no surprise, as he has long been an important voice for free markets and free people. Join him in conversation with Michael R. Strain to discuss the importance of economic liberty, the state of politics, and Senator Gramm's life and career.

A Conversation with Vladimir Kara-Murza

Angela Stent (Moderator)

As a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, filmmaker, and politician, Vladimir Kara-Murza has been a leading Russian opposition figure against President Vladimir Putin for more than two decades. In 2022, he was arrested and imprisoned for publicly criticizing the invasion of Ukraine, and in 2024 he was freed in a multilateral prisoner exchange. Since his release, he has worked to promote Russian freedom, support Ukrainian resistance, and isolate Putin internationally. Join Mr. Kara-Murza and Russian foreign policy expert Angela Stent for a conversation about his experiences, the nature of Putin's regime, and Russia's future.

Saturday, March 15

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 7:30–9:30 a.m. | Breakfast Available | The Cloister |
| 8:00–9:00 a.m. | Early Bird Sessions | The Cloister |
| | A Conversation on the Future of the Press | |
| | Chris Best | The news media is being disrupted by new technology. Many media leaders also worry about disruption from politics. How will long-standing institutions evolve, and how are new media companies reimagining journalism? Are First Amendment press freedoms safe? Join AG |
| | AG Sulzberger | Sulzberger, publisher of <i>The New York Times</i> , and Chris Best, the |
| | Chris Stirewalt (Moderator) | cofounder and CEO of Substack, for a conversation on journalism. |
| | A Conversation with University Presidents | |
| | James P. Clements | From battles over free expression and affirmative action to an |
| | Ronald Daniels | explosion of antisemitism, campus controversies have been |
| | Daniel Diermeier | rampant in recent years. But not all elite universities are alike. |
| | Benjamin Storey (Moderator) | How do academic leaders who perceive the problem with campus politicization seek to address it and preserve the academic ethos? The presidents of Clemson University, Johns Hopkins University, and Vanderbilt University join AEI's Benjamin Storey for a conversation about the future of the academy. |
| 8:00–10:30 a.m. | Special Exhibit | Black Banks Parlor |
| | The Situation Room: The Wars in Ukraine and the Middle East | |
| | Frederick W. Kagan | Frederick W. Kagan and the Critical Threats Project (CTP) at AEI work |
| | Kimberly Kagan | closely with their research partner, the Institute for the Study of War (ISW), led by Kimberly Kagan. CTP and ISW are analyzing the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Israel-Hamas war, Syria, and Iran's activities in the Middle East. The daily update maps are actively used by most major media outlets, including the BBC, CNN, <i>The Guardian</i> , <i>The Financial Times</i> , <i>The New York Times</i> , and Reuters. This session will showcase the most recent CTP-ISW assessments of the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East and provide up-to-date information on the crises. |
| 9:30–10:30 a.m. | Breakout Sessions | The Cloister |
| | "Drill, Baby, Drill": Energy Markets in the Age of Trump and AI | |
| | Greg Brockman | In his inaugural address, President Trump promised to declare a |
| | Chris Miller | national energy emergency to increase domestic energy production, |
| | Marc Sumerlin | saying, "We will drill, baby, drill." Simultaneously, the likely energy |
| | Daniel Yergin | demands of AI technology have increased interest in energy |
| | Roger Pielke Jr. (Moderator) | production from a variety of sources, including some that were recently taboo, such as nuclear power. What is the future of energy technology and production? How will markets respond? |

Tax Reform: Here We Go Again

Buddy Carter
 Bill Cassidy
 John Cornyn
 Brian Deese
 R. Glenn Hubbard
 Thomas Suozzi
 Alex Brill (Moderator)

In 2017, Republicans in Congress and President Trump enacted historic tax reform, reducing the corporate tax rate and temporarily cutting household taxes. Those temporary cuts expire at the end of this year, and extending them is a top priority for the second Trump administration and congressional Republicans. But how? Will Congress roll back the 2017 cap on the state and local tax deduction? Will the corporate rate come down further? Will any households see their taxes increase? What about Trump's promise to eliminate the tax on tips? And how will Congress avoid blowing out the deficit? Join our panel of experts and members of Congress to find out what changes are on the horizon.

What Does the Life of Zhou Enlai Teach Us About China Today?

Chen Jian
 Audrye Wong (Moderator)

From the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) revolutionary roots to China's growing global engagement, Zhou Enlai played a central role as architect and executor of Chairman Mao Zedong's domestic and foreign policies. He has been exalted as a consummate statesman but also criticized for his self-preserving loyalty to Mao despite the latter's disastrous and violent excesses. In an impressive new biography, Chen Jian, a leading historian of the Cold War and China's foreign policy, investigates the origins and legacies of a crucial figure in modern Chinese history. Join us to discuss how Zhou's aspirations and paradoxes illuminate the CCP's trajectory and China's contemporary transformation into a global power.

10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Morning Conversations
How to Best Educate Children

10:45–11:30 a.m.
 Robert Doar (Moderator)

The Cloister Ballroom

A Conversation with Eva Moskowitz

Success Academy Charter Schools in New York City is one of the most successful school systems in the country. Founded in 2006 with just one school serving 165 kindergarteners and first graders, it has grown to over 57 schools serving over 22,000 students. On test scores, graduation rates, college admissions, and other metrics, its students—many of whom are minorities or from single-parent families—are high achievers. As Success Academy's founder and CEO since day one, Eva Moskowitz has been the driving force behind these accomplishments. Join her and AEI President Robert Doar for a conversation about how she does it and what lessons American schools can learn from Success Academy.

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
 Yuval Levin (Moderator)

A Conversation with Jonathan Haidt

Jonathan Haidt has become America's leading advocate for replacing the "phone-based childhood" by recovering the "play-based childhood." What's at stake in the war over screens and social media in children's lives? What's the role of public policy, and education and culture, in advancing this agenda? And what is the evidence behind his concerns? Dr. Haidt joins AEI's Yuval Levin for a conversation about the future of childhood in America.

12:30–2:00 p.m.

Luncheon

A Conversation with Alex Karp

Joe Lonsdale (Moderator)

The Beach Club

Alex Karp has grown Palantir into a world-class software company by applying cutting-edge innovation to advance national security and competing against market incumbents and an ossified federal procurement bureaucracy. How can the Trump administration and Congress clear obstacles to American innovation and encourage the renaissance in hardware and software development for national security that a world full of dangers will require? Join Dr. Karp, Palantir co-founder and CEO, and Joe Lonsdale, Palantir co-founder and 8VC managing partner, for a one-on-one conversation on this urgent challenge facing America and the West.

2:15–3:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sessions

Fixing the Crumbling Foundations of America's Military

Mackenzie Eaglen

Jimmy Panetta

Austin Scott

Raj M. Shah

Heather Wilson

Kori Schake (Moderator)

The Cloister

America has typically avoided war to achieve political objectives. Once underway, our citizenry demands no fair fight. But the portion of the defense budget that yields combat power to deter mercantilist China and revisionist Russia has collapsed, and innovation in the armed forces is completely stalled. Great ideas from tech or venture capital companies are almost never fielded at scale. Cultural resistance in the bureaucracy keeps defense primes on autopilot. The defense industrial base must be strengthened and broadened so military investments can better bolster combat forces and restore deterrence in a fiscally responsible way. Is America up to the task?

How Will Artificial Intelligence Change the World?

Greg Brockman

Erik Brynjolfsson

Scott Gottlieb

Connor Zwick

John Bailey (Moderator)

AI has captured the imaginations of scholars, business leaders, and government officials. The year 2023 will be remembered as a turning point in history—the year when humans and machines could converse in natural language and chatbots passed the Turing test. Since then, investors have poured huge sums into AI infrastructure. But beyond impressive chatbots, how specifically will AI change the world? Join this panel of scholars and technology leaders to learn about current and potential ways to apply AI to education, language acquisition, drug development, medical care, and more.

Israel and the Middle East

Elliott Abrams

Eyal Hulata

Walter Russell Mead

Danielle Pletka (Moderator)

After the devastating attacks of October 7, Israel has upended the entire region. Iran and its terrorist proxies, Lebanon, and Syria are shadows of their former selves. Iran has never been so weak. Can Israel capitalize on this moment to forge a new era? Can President Trump pull off another Abraham Accords-style miracle? Or, as the Hamas war winds to a close, will it be back to the future, with Hamas again in charge of Gaza, Hezbollah in charge of Lebanon, and Iran in possession of a nuclear weapon?

3:30–5:00 p.m.

Afternoon Break

3:45–4:45 p.m.

Special Exhibit

The Situation Room: The Wars in Ukraine and the Middle East

Frederick W. Kagan

Kimberly Kagan

Black Banks Parlor

Frederick W. Kagan and the Critical Threats Project (CTP) at AEI work closely with their research partner, the Institute for the Study of War (ISW), led by Kimberly Kagan. CTP and ISW are analyzing the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Israel-Hamas war, Syria, and Iran's activities in the Middle East. The daily update maps are actively used by most major media outlets, including the BBC, CNN, *The Guardian*, *The Financial Times*, *The New York Times*, and Reuters. This session will showcase the most recent CTP-ISW assessments of the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East and provide up-to-date information on the crises.

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|-----------------|---|---|
| 5:00–6:00 p.m. | <p>Evening Conversation</p> <p>A Conversation with US Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum</p> <p>Robert Doar (Moderator)</p> | <p>The Cloister Ballroom</p> <p>At the center of President Donald Trump’s economic vision is an ambitious agenda for energy dominance: empowering domestic energy production with innovation and deregulation to lower prices, strengthen economic growth, and bolster national security. As the chief federal official in charge of public lands and natural resources, newly confirmed Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum is leading these efforts, building on his experience in the private sector and as governor of North Dakota. Join Secretary Burgum for a conversation with AEI President Robert Doar about his vision for the Department of the Interior and the administration’s broader priorities for industry and the private sector.</p> |
| 5:00 p.m. | <p><i>Shuttle Departs for Mass*</i></p> <p><i>*Mass will begin at 5:30 p.m. at St. William Catholic Church.</i></p> <p><i>Shuttles will return to the Cloister at 6:45 p.m.</i></p> | <p>The Cloister</p> |
| 6:00–7:00 p.m. | <p>Reception</p> | <p>The Cloister</p> |
| 7:15–8:30 p.m. | <p>Dinner</p> | <p>The Cloister</p> |
| 8:30–10:30 p.m. | <p>Post-Dinner Reception</p> | <p>The Cloister</p> |
| 8:45–9:45 p.m. | <p>Starlight Chats</p> <p>A Conversation with Masih Alinejad</p> <p>Kori Schake (Moderator)</p> | <p>The Cloister</p> <p>Masih Alinejad is one of the most important voices for women’s rights and human rights in Iran today. Born and raised in the country, she started her career as a political journalist and columnist, exposing corruption and challenging the Islamic Republic’s leaders until she was forced into exile after the disputed 2009 presidential election. Living in America, she has continued to document the regime’s abuses and challenge discrimination against women through civil disobedience campaigns, work that has made her the target of kidnapping and assassination attempts. Join her and AEI’s Kori Schake for a conversation about Ms. Alinejad’s work and the past, present, and future of Iran’s regime.</p> |
| | <p>A Conversation with Paul Finebaum</p> <p>Chris Christie (Moderator)</p> | <p>At a time when college sports are undergoing a sea change, Paul Finebaum has become one of the most prominent sports media voices in the country. Starting his career as a sportswriter in Alabama, Mr. Finebaum has had a front-row seat as a radio host and ESPN television personality to the transformative effects of trends like conference realignment, financial compensation for athletes, sports gambling, and increasingly pervasive media coverage on college athletics. As the pace of these changes shows little sign of slowing, join him for a wide-ranging conversation on the future of college sports and sports media and their changing place in American life.</p> |
| | <p>Why Can’t We Run Government Like a Bolivian Chinchilla Ranch?</p> <p>Jonah Goldberg</p> | <p>Jonah Goldberg reflects on the perils of bad analogies on all sides of our politics.</p> |

Sunday, March 16

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| 7:30–10:15 a.m. | Breakfast Available | The Cloister |
| 7:30 a.m. | Shuttle Departs for Mass* *Mass will begin at 8:00 a.m. at St. William Catholic Church. Shuttles will return to the Cloister at 9:15 a.m. | The Cloister |
| 9:00–10:15 a.m. | Early Bird Sessions | The Cloister |
| | A Conversation with Allen Carl Guelzo Ben Sasse (Moderator) | The Civil War never loses its resonance. In every generation, in light of new challenges, reflecting on our greatest national crisis offers us fresh ways to think about American ideals and the nature of statesmanship. Join Allen Carl Guelzo (our greatest living Civil War historian) and Senator Ben Sasse (himself a historian and a political and educational leader) for a conversation about the meaning of that era and the importance of teaching and learning history in 21st-century America. |
| | Congress in a New Era Shelley Moore Capito Mike Lee Marc A. Thiessen (Moderator) | Our politics tends to focus on the presidency, but durable policy change must happen in Congress. With the narrowest House majority in generations and a closely divided Senate, how do members now think about advancing their agendas? How do they regard the president's assertions of power? And what are the prospects for progress on the country's long-term challenges? |

SPEAKERS

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|-------------------------|--|
| ELLIOTT ABRAMS | Council on Foreign Relations |
| MASIH ALINEJAD | World Liberty Congress |
| KRISTEN SOLTIS ANDERSON | Echelon Insights |
| RICK ATKINSON | Author |
| CHRIS BEST | Substack |
| GREG BROCKMAN | OpenAI |
| ERIK BRYNJOLFSSON | Stanford University |
| DOUG BURGUM | US Secretary of the Interior |
| SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO | US Senate (R-WV) |
| BUDDY CARTER | US House of Representatives (R-GA) |
| BILL CASSIDY | US Senate (R-LA) |
| PRISCILLA CHAN | Chan Zuckerberg Initiative |
| CHEN JIAN | New York University and New York University Shanghai |
| JAMES P. CLEMENTS | Clemson University |
| JOHN CORNYN | US Senate (R-TX) |
| L. JAY CROSS | Howard Hughes Holdings |
| H. LAWRENCE CULP JR. | GE Aerospace |
| RONALD DANIELS | Johns Hopkins University |
| BRIAN DEESE | Massachusetts Institute of Technology |
| DANIEL DIERMEIER | Vanderbilt University |
| PAUL FINEBAUM | ESPN |
| MIKE FLOOD | US House of Representatives (R-NE) |
| JASON FURMAN | Harvard University |
| MIKE GALLAGHER | Former Congressman (R-WI) |
| PAUL A. GIGOT | <i>The Wall Street Journal</i> |
| ALLEN CARL GUELZO | Princeton University |
| JONATHAN HAIDT | New York University Stern School of Business |
| JAN HATZIUS | Goldman Sachs |
| EYAL HULATA | Foundation for the Defense of Democracies |
| ERIC L. JOHNSON | Mayor of Dallas |
| KIMBERLY KAGAN | Institute for the Study of War |
| VLADIMIR KARA-MURZA | Free Russia Foundation |
| ALEX KARP | Palantir |
| BRIAN P. KEMP | Governor of Georgia |
| MIKE LEE | US Senate (R-UT) |
| JOE LONSDALE | 8VC |
| JUDY MARKS | Otis Worldwide Corporation |
| RICHARD MCCORMICK | US House of Representatives (R-GA) |
| WALTER RUSSELL MEAD | Hudson Institute |
| JOHN MOOLENAAR | US House of Representatives (R-MI) |
| EVA MOSKOWITZ | Success Academy Charter Schools |
| PAUL M. NAKASONE | Director, Vanderbilt University Institute of National Security |
| HILLEL NEUER | United Nations Watch |
| JIMMY PANETTA | US House of Representatives (D-CA) |

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| BEN SASSE | Former US Senator (R-NE) |
| AUSTIN SCOTT | US House of Representatives (R-GA) |
| JASON SMITH | US House of Representatives (R-MO) |
| GENE SPERLING | Former Director, National Economic Council |
| ELISE M. STEFANIK | US House of Representatives (R-NY) |
| ANGELA STENT | Georgetown University |
| KEVIN STITT | Governor of Oklahoma |
| AG SULZBERGER | <i>The New York Times</i> |
| MARC SUMERLIN | Evenflow Macro |
| THOMAS SUOZZI | US House of Representatives (D-NY) |
| JOHN THUNE | US Senate (R-SD) |
| BRANDON WALES | SentinelOne |
| YAQIU (RACHEL) WANG | Freedom House |
| HEATHER WILSON | University of Texas at El Paso |
| DANIEL YERGIN | S&P Global |
| GLENN YOUNGKIN | Governor of Virginia |
| MARK ZANDI | Moody's Analytics |
| CONNOR ZWICK | Speak |

ATTENDEES

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| JOSHUA BOLTEN | Business Roundtable |
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| ADI HULATA | |
| MARTY KEMP | First Lady of Georgia |
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If you have any questions regarding the World Forum during your stay,
please contact the World Forum Office.

Hours: March 13–15, 7:00 a.m. to 9:45 p.m.;
March 16, 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: worldforum@aei.org

